

REMARKS

The specification and drawings have been amended to make editorial changes therein.

The previously pending claims have been replaced with new claims directed to the embodiment shown in Figures 12-14 and that are believed to be proper as to form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the claims and the rejections under §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

The new claims define an assembly and method in which a base (102; page 4, lines 14-25: note that element numbers and citations are provided by way of explanation and not as limitations) has a pocket (105) and a through-hole (106) (Figure 12; page 14, lines 30-34), and in which a preliminary base card (110) larger than the pocket has a weakened line (Figure 14A) that delimits a small card (103) that is detachable from the preliminary base card at the weakened line, where the small card is held within the pocket when inserted therein (page 4, lines 26-29, and page 14, lines 4-15), the small card having an antenna (104) and a microcircuit (inside the antenna in Figure 12). The larger, preliminary base card may of standard credit card size, namely the ISO ID-1 format (page 3, lines 24-29, page 6, lines 21-29).

Claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-22, and 24-25 were rejected as anticipated by TARANTINO et al. 6,467,692 and claims 9, 18, and 23 were rejected as unpatentable over TARANTINO et al.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

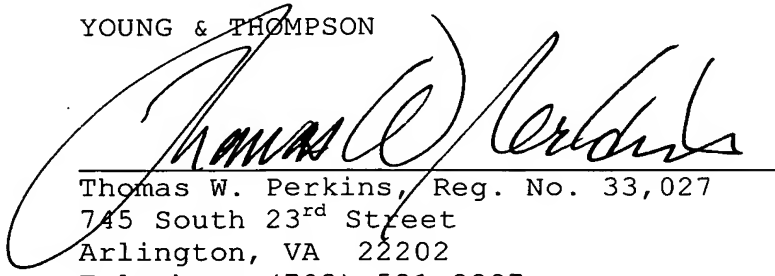
TARANTINO et al. disclose a modular data medium. However, they do not disclose at least the base with a pocket of the size claimed herein and the small card that is detached from a larger card and inserted in the pocket. More specifically, the reference does not disclose an assembly or method in which a base has a pocket with a through-hole, and in which a preliminary base card larger than the pocket has a weakened line that delimits a small card that is detachable from the preliminary base card at the weakened line, where the small card is held within the pocket when inserted therein. Accordingly, the new claims avoid the rejections under §102 and §103.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Perkins", is written over the typed name and address.

Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

TWP/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- one replacement drawing sheet

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The replacement sheet in the Appendix includes changes to Figures 1-2. In Figures 1-2, the previously omitted designations "prior art" have been added.